In The Claims:

Cancel claims 3 and 9-11, and amend claims 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8 as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended):

1. A method for depositing an electrically conductive layer of precious metal on an area of a face of a metal substrate, so all parts of the layer that lie in said area are electrically connected together, by maintaining a mask that has an opening corresponding to said area closely over the substrate face while the face and mask are immersed in an electrolyte and the precious metal is electrodeposited through the electrolyte onto the substrate face, comprising:

maintaining a screen of electrically nonconductive material over said area of the face so the screen lies closely between said mask and said substrate face, said screen having a regular pattern of through holes with a plurality of said holes covering said area of said face of said substrate, and including flowing the electrolyte into said through holes and against the substrate face, and electrodepositing the precious metal through the electrolyte lying in said holes onto the substrate face.

Claim 2 (currently amended):

2. The method described in claim 1 wherein:

said screen is formed of multiple ~~wires~~ nonconductive threads that each have a rounded periphery.

Claim 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (currently amended):

4. The method described in claim 1 wherein:

said screen is woven of nonconductive threads of round cross-section, that form multiple primarily square openings that each have a width and length on the order of 85 microns, and said area has a length that is a plurality of times said

area length.

Claim 5 (original):

5. The method described in claim 1 wherein:

said mask is of elastomeric material, and including compressing said screen between said mask and said substrate face, and maintaining locations on said screen that lie in openings of said mask against said substrate face.

Claim 6 (currently amended):

6. Apparatus for the deposition of an electrically conductive layer of ~~precious~~ metal on the face of a metal substrate through an opening in a mask, by the electrodeposition of the precious metal through an electrolyte onto the face of the substrate, comprising:

~~a~~ an electrically nonconductive screen with a portion that lies ~~at least~~ in alignment with said mask opening, against the face of the metal substrate, said screen having a regular pattern of tiny through holes that are each smaller than said opening, in which the electrolyte can lie, with a plurality of said through holes lying in line with said mask opening, to produce a deposited layer having multiple recesses.

Claim 7 (original):

7. The apparatus described in claim 6 wherein:

said screen is formed of woven threads of electrically nonconductive material, said threads having rounded outside surfaces.

Claim 8 (currently amended):

8. The apparatus described in claim 6 wherein:

said screen is formed of woven threads of electrically nonconductive material which form primarily square ~~openings~~ holes that each has a length and width on the order of 85 microns, and said opening has a length that is a plurality

of times greater than a length of said opening .

Claims 9-11 (canceled).